

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TOKYO 10898 070507Z

15

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-05 OMB-01 IO-10 /072 W  
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R 070350Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2297

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 10898

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, JA, KS, XC

SUBJ: DSP MISSION TO US

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

REF: A) TOKYO 8359 B) TOKYO 10726

1. IN MEETING WITH EMBOFFS AUG 5, DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST PARTY (DSP) LOWER HOUSE MEMBER AND DEFENSE SPECIALIST EIICHI NAGASUE OFFICIALLY REQUESTED ASSISTANCE IN ARRANGING APPOINTMENTS WITH SENIOR US OFFICIALS FOR DSP MISSION TO US DURING ITS WASHINGTON VISIT SEPT 1-4.

2. NAGASUE SAID THAT SERIES OF DSP MISSIONS TO SOUTHEAST ASIA, ROK, TAIWAN, USSR, AND US AIMED AT PROVIDING PARTY WITH UP TO DATE INFO ON WHICH TO BASE ITS REASSESSMENT OF JAPANESE DEFENSE POSTURE IN WAKE OF INDOCHINA'S FALL TO THE COMMUNISTS. DSP, WITH LDP BACKING, INITIATED DEBATE ON JAPANESE DEFENSE POLICY IN LOWER HOUSE BUDGET COMMITTEE IN LAST DIET SESSION AND EXPECTS TO RESUME THIS DEBATE AT SEPT SPECIAL SESSION. NAGASUE COMPLAINED THAT UNTIL RECENT EVENTS IN INDOCHINA SHOCKED JAPANESE OUT OF THEIR COMPLACENT ATTITUDE TOWARDS SECURITY MATTERS, POLITICAL DEBATE IN JAPAN ON DEFENSE POLICY BEGAN AND ENDED WITH GOJ ASSERTION THAT JAPANESE DEFENSE ASSURED BY US-JAPAN SECURITY  
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PAGE 02 TOKYO 10898 070507Z

TREATY AND OPPOSITION SOCIALIST-COMMUNIST COUNTER CLAIM THAT

JAPANESE SECURITY DEPENDED ON ABROGATION OF TREATY. NAGASUE ARGUED THAT DIET MUST NOW DISCUSS FUNDAMENTAL DEFENSE POLICY AND IN THIS CONTEXT ANALYZE NATURE AND DEGREE OF US COMMITMENT AS WELL AS CONTRIBUTION JAPAN ITSELF MUST MAKE. NAGASUE ADDED THAT SUCH DISCUSSION WAS MAIN THEME OF DSP CHAIRMAN KASUGA'S MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER MIKI JULY 16.

3. NAGASUE SAID THAT HAT DSP WISHES TO GAIN FROM US TRIP IS CURRENT THINKING OF USG POLICY MAKERS ON FUTURE US MILITARY POSTURE ON ASIA, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO JAPAN AND THE KOREAN PENINSULA. NAGASUE ADDED THAT WHILE DSP SHARES CONCERN OF ASEAN LEADERS OVER SUDDEN EXPANSION OF COMMUNIST STRENGTH IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, IT BELIEVES US EVALUATION OF POST VIETNAM SECURITY SITUATION MUST BE KEY ELEMENT IN ANY JAPANESE REASSESSMENT.

4. EMBOFFS PROMISED NAGASUE ONLY THAT THEY WOULD REPORT HIS REQUEST FOR HIGH LEVEL APPOINTMENTS IN WASHINGTON. THEY NOTED, HOWEVER, DIFFICULTIES CREATED BY ARRIVAL OF MISSION IN WASHINGTON ON LABOR DAY WEEKEND WHEN MANY OFFICIALS OUT OF TOWN AND JUST AS SEC DEF SCHESLINGER RETURNS FROM FAR EAST TRIP. EMBOFFS URGED DSP TO WORK THROUGH COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR GERALD CURTIS IN SEEKING CONGRESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS, RECOMMENDED MEETINGS WITH BROOKINGS INSTITUTION, ASIAN SPECIALISTS AS WELL AS COLUMBIA EAST ASIA INSTITUTE DIRECTOR JAMES MORLEY AND SUGGESTED THAT IN NEW YORK MISSION TAKE READING OF KOREAN QUESTION IN US.

5. COMMENT: WE ARE IMPRESSED BY THE SERIOUSNESS OF DSP PURPOSE IN UNDERTAKING US TRIP, AND WE ARE ENCOURAGED THAT NAGASUE, WITH HIS FIRM GRASP OF POLITICAL-SECURITY MATTERS, IS IN EFFECT KEY MEMBER OF MISSION. (UNFORTUNATELY, DSP SEC GEN TSUKAMOTO, NOMINAL LEADER OF GROUP, IS LESS WELL-INFORMED ABOUT INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AND IS MUCH LESS SKILLED CONVERSATIONALIST). WE HAVE RECEIVED STEADY STREAM OF HINTS FROM LDP POLITICIANS AND GOJ OFFICIALS THAT THEY ALSO HOPE TRIP WILL BE A SUCCESS SINCE THEY WILL CONTINUE TO RELY ON DSP FOR ASSISTANCE IN DIET ON MAJOR FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES AT CRUCIAL MOMENTS.

6. WE BELIEVE THERE IS GOOD POSSIBILITY THAT USG  
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PAGE 03 TOKYO 10898 070507Z

WILL ALSO DERIVE DIRECT BENEFITS FROM DSP US TRIP. MEETINGS IN WASHINGTON PROVIDE EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY FOR STATE AND DEFENSE OFFICIALS TO PLACE ON THE RECORD AGAIN, IN WAKE OF FORD-MIKI COMMUNIQUE, US ATTITUDES AND POLICY POSITIONS REGARDING US/JAPAN SECURITY RELATIONSHIP, KOREA AND PEACE AND STABILITY IN ASIA DSP WILL BE MEETING WITH JAPANESE CORRESPONDENTS IN WASHINGTON AD NEW YORK, THEREBY ASSURING PLAYBACK IN JAPANESE MEDIA OF US STATEMENTS TO MISSION.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT DEPUTY  
SECRETARY INGERSOLL, APPROPRIATE SENIOR LEVEL DEFENSE DEPT  
OFFICIALS AND CINCPAC MEET WITH DSP MISSION.  
SHOESMITH

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